

8 September 2021

By email: [fyi-request-16439-446b956c@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-16439-446b956c@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Mr Creser

**Request for information relating to the opinion of the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) about fraudulent acts**

I refer to your email dated 8 August 2021 requesting the following information:

*“Please advise me whether or not the Serious Fraud Office views the act of materially altering a judgement by a registrar/lawyer, independent of any judicial function, to be a fraudulent act in New Zealand.”*

We have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (**OIA**).

The SFO investigates and prosecutes serious financial crime, including bribery and corruption. We only investigate matters where the Director has reason to suspect that an investigation into the affairs of any person may disclose a serious or complex fraud.

We consider that you are seeking the opinion of the SFO rather than information that we hold, as defined in s 2(1) of the OIA. Accordingly, the information requested is not held by our office and therefore we refuse this part of the request under s 18(g) of the OIA.

However, based on your request, we consider it would be more appropriate for you to submit a complaint to the SFO, which will be evaluated to determine whether it fits within the mandate of the SFO. Alternatively, you may wish to make a complaint to the New Zealand Law Society about the conduct or service that a lawyer has provided.

You are entitled to make a complaint about our decision to the Office of the Ombudsman. They can be contacted at P O Box 10152, Wellington 6143 or at [office@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:office@ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Yours sincerely



Kylie Cooper  
Deputy General Counsel